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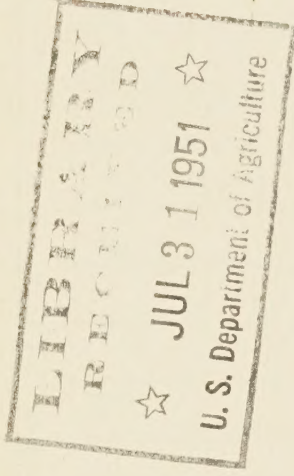
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RUSSWARD
Saintpaulia Growers

JONESBORO, ARK.

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News Letter

July, 1951

ANSWER TO GLASS WICK QUESTION LAST MONTH: This can be obtained from Atlas Asbestos Company, North Wales, Penna. (thanks to Mrs. W.S., Penna.) or Manilla Greenhouses, Manilla, Indiana (thanks to Mrs. A.C.V., Iowa).

Q. What causes mealybugs? Mrs. E. J., Florida.

A. Same thing that causes flies and mosquitoes, I guess. Mealybugs are frequently brought into the house on plants from the florist or from not-quite-careful friends. Best preventative is washing foliage every week or two under a gentle lukewarm stream from the tap. Be sure the plants are thoroughly dry before replacing in the light.

Q. . . . mildew on flowers and sometimes leaves. Looks very much like that on roses. Mrs. C.M., Michigan.

A. Control it with rose dust. It isn't unusual for violets to come forth with strange fungus diseases, particularly during damp seasons. There's also a sooty mold and a red rust which are easily controlled with a rose dust or powdered sulphur.

Q. Lady Geneva white edge is disappearing. Can you tell me what to do? Mrs. A.L., Wisconsin.

A. Wish we knew. The hot weather we have down here seems to cause the edge to fade, also shock of shipping seems to make some difference. In our experience, the white edge has never returned once it's gone.

Q. Is there a Violet Magazine like the Iris people put out? Mrs. F.V.M., Indiana.

A. Sure. Cheapest way to get it is to join the National Society, which dues are \$3.00 per year, which includes the Magazine subscription. Send dues to Mr. Boyce M. Edens, 2694 Lenox Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

Q. I have a violet that looks healthy but the leaves roll backward. What's wrong with it? Mrs. W.A.J., Illinois.

A. Some varieties tend to do that naturally. Excessive light or a chilly atmosphere or malnutrition will accentuate the tendency.

Q. I would like to know why my plants are so leggy. Mrs. C.C., S. Carolina.

A. Primarily a matter of insufficient light. Some folks think too much nitrogen in the fertilizer will cause it, too.

Q. Please tell me how long African Violets rest before they blossom again. Mrs. C.C., Wisconsin.

A. After a plant is a year or so old, if it is healthy and has all the light and fertilizer it needs, it should bloom continuously. In the greenhouse, our young stock usually comes into bloom at about nine months. If you pull off all those flowers, it will take them another month to put up more. Personally, I don't hold with all this business about "resting." If a plant is healthy, you can't KEEP it from blooming—unless you pull out all the buds. If a violet isn't in continuous bloom (or bud) after it's a year and a half old, there's something wrong with it.

Q. . . . seem to develop a tuber above the soil. Should I re-pot and cover this tuberous growth? When should a plant be divided and re-potted? Mrs. K.M., Florida.

A. That would be the thickened crown stalk. Yes, you should re-pot and cover it. Any time for division and re-potting. You can expect them to stop blooming until they are set in the new pots, about six weeks.

Q. . . . new plants are coming up through the dirt now. Do they need special attention? Mrs. H.M., Indiana.

A. You might begin feeding them a weak fertilizer solution. Other than that treat them like you do your other plants.

Q. What do judges look for in Saintpaulias in a flower show?

A. They are SUPPOSED to look for symmetry of foliage pattern, size and color of blossom, cultural perfection (absence of ring spots, torn leaves, etc.) and, last, quantity of bloom. These are the qualities outlined by the National Society. Any local A.V. society has a scale of points somewhere—I seem to have misplaced mine. However, more often than not, the general flower show judge isn't familiar with this point scale, and he judges more or less by the seat of his pants. Distaster often results. If you're planning a division of violets in your general flower show, for goodness' sake get hold of an African Violet judging scale so the judges will have something to go by. Write to Mrs. Arthur Radtke, 334 Orion St., Cincinnati 13, Ohio, for this.

"Russ"

RUSSWARD

Saintpaulia Growers

JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Sustaining Member African Violet Society of America, Inc.

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Shipping Information—Plants shipped out of 2-inch pots List price includes packing and mailing costs All plants sent Special Handling. We guarantee safe arrival of plants. To avoid disappointment, and to take advantage of frequent price reductions, order from the most recent Price List.

BRAND NEW DOUBLES

Azure Beauty—Double white with pale blue variegation. Large double full open flowers like double Neptune type with excellent foliage **\$3.00**

Dark Beauty—Double White with dark blue variegation. Same flower and foliage as Azure Beauty **\$3.00**

Double Orchid Girl—Excellent large orchid flowers, scalloped Girl foliage **\$3.00**

Double Sailors Delight—A double Sailor Girl. Pale blue double flower **\$3.00**

Star Sapphire—(Pat'd) Radiant star-shaped flower of intense sapphire blue. Something absolutely new in African Violets. Flower doesn't have the "violet" shape at all. Perfect five-pointed star **\$2.25**

NEW SINGLES

Snow Girl—Pure white, girl foliage, large full bloom **\$3.00**

Red Velvet—Two-tone red shading to lighter red lower petals with upper petals resembling red velvet. Heavy dark green foliage, veined red underneath **\$2.75**

Pink Delight—Light, clear pink flower, bronzy foliage **\$2.75**

Rose Marie—A true rose. Really lovely **\$3.00**

Purple Dawn—A solid bluish-purple impregnated with deeper purple veining in the flower, a distinctly new color in violets. Profuse bloomer, heavy foliage, red veined underneath **\$3.00**

Fantasy—Lavender variegated flower **\$3.00**

ESTABLISHED FAVORITES

Blue Butterfly—Exquisite pale blue, medium green tapered foliage **\$1.00**

Blue Chard—Flat growth, elongated leaves, bright medium-blue flowers **\$1.50**

Blue Eyed Beauty—Large white blossom with blue marking on the flower. Remarkable for its vitality and profuse bloom **\$2.50**

Bronze Girl—(Red Lavender) Dark, bronzy-green foliage beautifully scalloped **\$1.50**

Double Duchess—A double Blue Boy with fully opening double flower **\$1.00**

Double Neptune—Lovely dark blue double. Shows all the Neptune characteristics with double flower of excellent habit \$1.50

Double Orchid—Red-lavender version of Duchess. Lovely \$1.00

Fringettes—Lovely rippled foliage, flowers frilled and crimped.

 Dark blue \$2.00

 Medium blue \$1.50

 Red Lavender \$2.00

 Mauve \$2.00

 White \$2.75

Gorgeous—Exquisite red spooned variety. Dark green foliage, red reverse \$1.50

Lady Loreta—Improved Blue Girl. Unusually large foliage and flowers \$1.50

Lady Marion—Girl foliage, medium blue flower. Nice plants \$1.00

Orchid Beauty—Red-lavender flower, medium green foliage \$1.00

Orchid Wonder—Pale orchid, shades to dark in center of flower. Excellent flat, slick foliage \$1.50

Periwinkle—Lovely pale blue. Large husky dark green foliage \$1.25

Pink Girl—Scalloped, medium green foliage with pink blossom \$1.50

Red Girl—Red lavender flower with fine girl foliage \$1.25

Red King—Rich burgundy flowers, magnificent semi-quilted dark foliage \$1.50

Redland Ruffles—Redlands sport with dark tapered foliage of Ruffles \$1.50

Rosie O'Grady—One of the finer new pinks. Large pink flower overlaid with rose star \$1.50

Sailor Girl—Pale blue version of the popular girl strain \$1.25

Snow Prince—Pure white with exquisite fine slick foliage. Immense blossoms \$2.00

Sunrise—One of the finer red-lavenders \$1.25

Violet Beauty—Immense pale violet blooms with tinge of blue \$2.00

White Girl Hybrid—Predominately white flower with blue or lavender marking. Beautiful girl foliage \$1.50
